(a) the new roads being constructed by the Border Roads Organisation in Uttaranchal and the total length of roads in kms. proposed to be built by this organisation in Uttaranchal in the year 2003-2004;

(b) whether some roads are being constructed or were being constructed earlier in the district of Pithoragarh by this organisation;

(c) if so, the names of such roads separately;

(d) whether there is any proposal to complete these roads during the present Five Year Plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There is no porposal to construct new roads in Uttaranchal. However following road works on existing roads in the State are proposed to be executed during 2003-2004:

(i) Formation cutting — 89.63 Km.

(ii) Surfacing of roads — 103.44 Km.

(iii) Permanent Works — Rs. 44.55 Crs.

(iv) Major Permanent Bridges — 253.25 Mtrs.

(b) to (f) Construction/development of two roads namely Tanakpur-Tawaghat and Tawaghat-Jibti is in progress and they are proposed to be completed by 2007. Works on road Ghatiabagarh-Lipulekh have not yet commenced for want of forest clearance. However the originally scheduled date of completion of this road is 2005.

Kalinga Regiment

2401. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government' of Orissa has made a proposal for raising of "Kalinga Regiment" in our Defence Forces; and

(b) if so, the details of the request made and the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to raise a Kalinga Regiment in the Defence Forces. The policy of the Government is not to raise any new regiment on the basis of a particular class, creed, community, religion or region, but to have an Army in which all Indians have representation.

Occupation of land by Army

2402. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the army has taken over lands at various places in baramula and Kupwara districts for defence purposes; and

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware that the army neither vacates these lands nor pays any rent?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Apart from Defence acquired land, there are certain pockets of land, which are under occupation of Armed Forces in Baramulla and Kupwara Districts. The occupation Of land by Armed Forces is regularized by way of requisition/hiring and rental compensation is payable for such lands. The rentals for the requisitioned and hired lands are normally being paid when due. In Baramulla district, 2202.381 acres of land (approximately) is under requisition/hiring with Armed Forces for which a sum of Rs. 85,29,783/- has been paid as rentals in the year 2002-2003. Similarly, in Kupwara District, 1011.445 acres of land (approximately) is under requisiton/hiring with Armed Forces for which a sum of Rs. 34,22,120/- has been paid as rentals in the year 2002-2003.

Setting up of a Sainik Bharti board in Aheerwal Region of Haryana

†2403. SHRI D .P. YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government to set up the proposed "Sainik Bharti Board" in the Aheerwal region of Haryana; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.